

**TOWNSHIP OF FALLS
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

ROLL CALL:

JEFFRY E. DENCE, CHAIRMAN	ABSENT
JEFFREY M. BORASKI, VICE-CHAIRMAN	PRESENT
BRIAN M. GALLOWAY, SECRETARY	ABSENT
JOHN W. PALMER, SUPERVISOR	PRESENT
ERIN M. MULLEN, SUPERVISOR	PRESENT

The meeting commenced at 7:03 p.m. with roll call and pledge to the flag. All Board members were present with the exception of Chairman Dence who had a prior commitment this evening and Member Galloway who had a family emergency. Also present were Township Manager/Chief Code Enforcement Officer & Zoning Officer Matthew Takita, Township Solicitor Michael Clarke, Township Solicitor Lauren Gallagher, and Township Engineer Joe Jones.

**ITEM # 1 PUBLIC COMMENT – FIVE MINUTE LIMIT PER PERSON
FORTY-FIVE MINUTE MAXIMUM**

Ms. Toni Battiste offered her thanks to Chief Whitney and Cara Gadzinski on behalf of the Fallsington United Methodist Church Missions Committee for helping to set up a program for donations of clothing to help those in need. Ms. Battiste said they appreciate the opportunity. So far, this has been a successful program.

**ITEM # 2 CONSIDER BIDS FOR LANDSCAPING SERVICES AT TOWNSHIP
FACILITIES FOR YEARS 2022, 2023 AND 2024**

Manager Takita said the board is being asked to consider bids for landscaping services at Township facilities for years 2022, 2023 and 2024. One quote was received for landscaping services. The bid was from WDB Lawn and Garden Services, Inc. in the amount of \$40,355 for 2022, \$41,990 for 2023, and \$43,645 for 2024. Member Palmer said he understood the contract is for three years. Manager Takita said that is correct. Member Boraski asked how many years they have had this contractor. Mr. Lawson said this is their second contract, so it is six years that he knows they have been here. We are pleased with the work they do and said they are very responsive. Member Boraski asked about the increase in cost. Manager Takita said they reached out to the contractor. The increase in fuel costs doubled and in some cases the material costs have doubled or tripled. Member Boraski said those things are consistent with national average. Member Palmer moved to approve the bid for landscaping services at Township facilities, from WDB Lawn and Garden Services, Inc. for the year 2022 in the amount of \$40,355; the year 2023 in the amount of \$41,990; and the year 2024 in the amount of \$43,645; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 3 CONSIDER QUOTES FOR FERTILIZER FOR TOWNSHIP FACILITIES

Manager Takita said quotes for fertilizer for the township facilities were received as follows: TruGreen in the amount of \$19,830, Capital Turf Management in the amount of \$22,585 and Total Lawncare and Landscaping in the amount of \$24,781. TruGreen was the lowest bidder. Member Mullen said there are between 30 and 40 properties that are serviced by the fertilizer. Member Palmer moved to award the quote for fertilizer for Township facilities to TruGreen in the amount of \$19,830; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 4 CONSIDER THE 2022-2023 STONE AND ASPHALT BIDS FOR FALLS TOWNSHIP

Manager Takita said the Bucks County Consortium Road Material bid was opened by New Britain Township and the results were forwarded to Falls Township. We are recommending that the board award the Consortium Road Materials bid to Eureka Stone Quarry Inc. for stone and aggregate items and blacktop and binder material. Member Boraski moved to award the Consortium bid for the stone and aggregate items and blacktop and binder material to Eureka Stone Quarry Inc.; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 5 CONSIDER QUOTES FOR THE RENOVATION OF FLOORS AT THE PINWOOD POOL

Mr. Andrews said the floors at the Pinewood Pool are very slippery and in need of renovation. There were three quotes to consider, and Mr. Andrews said he is recommending awarding the bid to Concepts in Concrete. This item came in under budget. We hope to do the work the first week in May. Member Palmer moved to award the quote for the renovation of floors at the Pinewood Pool to Concepts in Concrete Inc.; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 6 CONSIDER BUS QUOTES FOR THE FALLS TOWNSHIP SUMMER CAMP

Member Palmer moved to award the bus quote for the Falls Township Summer Camp to David Thomas Transportation contingent upon final review by the Solicitor's office; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 7 CONSIDERATION OF LEASE AGREEMENT WITH WASTE MANAGEMENT FOR POLICE FIRING RANGE

Ms. Gallagher said the township has an existing lease agreement with Waste Management for their firing range near Biles Island. It is now re-located and is on Biles Island. In

talking to the attorneys with Waste Management, there is a new lease agreement noting the correct parcel number. Member Palmer wanted to make sure our insurance covers the new location. Ms. Gallagher said it is covered. Member Palmer moved to approve the lease agreement with Waste Management for the police firing range contingent upon final approval by the Solicitor's office; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 8 CONSIDER COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN PAFT AND FALLS TOWNSHIP

Ms. Gallagher said this is the Collective Bargaining Agreement for the calendar years 2018 through 2022. We resolved most of these issues several years ago and this is the final written version of the agreement. Member Palmer moved to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between PAFT and Falls Township; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 9 CONSIDER AGREEMENT BETWEEN AFSCME AND FALLS TOWNSHIP AND AUTHORIZE CHAIR AND SECRETARY TO EXECUTE FINAL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT AFTER REVIEW BY SOLICITOR

Mr. Clarke said this is a Collective Bargaining Agreement with AFSCME Local 1598C. This contract expired at the end of 2021. It is a three-year contract which runs from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2024. Salary increases are for 2022, 3.5% with retro-activity back to January 1, 2022; year 2 is 3% and year 3 is 3%. There is a change to various years of service for bookkeepers and one other change is for eligible members being permitted to work three days per year from home with prior approval from their supervisor. Member Mullen said they were well informed throughout the process. Member Palmer moved to approve the agreement between AFSCME and Falls Township and authorize Chair and Secretary to execute final Collective Bargaining Agreement after final review by the Solicitor's office; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 10 APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS, COUNCILS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

Member Mullen moved to approve Resolution # 2022-10, appointing Aaron Mackey to an alternate position on the Zoning Hearing Board; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 11 CONSIDER ESCROW RELEASE REQUEST

Member Palmer moved to approve the escrow release for Outback Steakhouse in the amount of \$218,368.98; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

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ITEM # 12 CONSIDER DONATION REQUEST

Member Palmer moved to approve the donation request to the Delaware Valley Vietnam Veterans Flag Memorial in the amount of \$6,000; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0) This year's event is from June 10th through the 12h.

ITEM # 13 MINUTES – FEBRUARY 23, 2022

Member Palmer moved to approve the minutes for February 23, 2022; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 14 ENGINEERS REPORT

Mr. Jones said the Engineers Office has moved to their new location at 10 Canal Street in Bristol Borough. They will be in the township building occupying space two days a week. For the month of February, there was one new land development which was a minor subdivision for NorthPoint. There was one earth disturbance submitted and that was for the Burger King improvements for rearranging some parking in the back in order to add a second drive-through lane. For land developments, the Lincoln Highway WAWA project has started. The NorthPoint Phase 1, Building 1 is a project for which they came in with an amended final plan and that is to take two buildings and consolidate them into one building. The Tyburn Road Associates mylars were signed. The NorthPoint subdivision mylars have been signed so that project is complete. The Levittown Car Wash will be before the board next month with a minor amendment to their final plan. For the NorthPoint Phase 2, Buildings 4, 5 & 6, we will meet with the applicant's engineer to wrap up some technical items and that project should be under construction within the next four weeks. The Mission BBQ mylars were signed and the project is underway. The Hiossen sketch plan project will be before the Planning Commission tomorrow. The Elderberry Drive Road Program project will resume the first week in April. They are cleaning up some punch list items from past road programs. Member Palmer moved to accept the Engineers Report; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 15 BILL LIST

Member Palmer moved to approve the bill list for February 23, 2022 in the amount of \$5,084,933.77; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 16 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Clarke said an Executive Session was held on March 8, 2022 to discuss litigation, potential litigation and personnel. An Executive Session was held on March 15, 2022 to discuss personnel and an Executive Session was held prior to tonight's meeting to discuss litigation and personnel.

ITEM # 17 POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Nelson Whitney presented highlights from the February Police Report.

- There were 1,455 calls for service.
- There was a DUI roving patrol on St. Patrick's Day and we are participating in the PennDOT Aggressive Driving Wave Program.
- Chief Whitney attended the State of the County luncheon where the Bucks County Commissioners described future plans for Bucks County.
- We launched Operation Urgent Aid which was our effort to collect bulletproof vests, medical supplies and other donations to support the people of Ukraine. To date, we have collected 250 vests and we continue to collect them. We will continue this as long as the logistics hold out on the Ukrainian side.
- Chief Whitney attended a NAACP meeting to talk about our community engagement efforts including our Co-Responder Programs.
- The Fallsington United Methodist Church clothing collection that Ms. Battiste mentioned earlier is a nice program.
- The Neighborhood Traffic Advisory Committee their held their first meeting in March. We discussed various traffic issues throughout the township and strategies to address them.
- Our Falls Township Supporting Recovery Co-Responders visited their counterparts in Philadelphia to exchange ideas and let them know what we have been able to accomplish in Falls Township. Our Co-Responders banded together to start producing a newsletter. Member Mullen asked if this was a monthly publication. Chief Whitney said he believes that is their intention. It is to spread the word and let our officers know what is available out there.
- Member Palmer asked about the Youth Police Academy and if it will be held in July. Chief Whitney said yes and we are accepting applications.
- Member Boraski asked if we received any cars outfitted with the HAAS system. Chief Whitney said about one third of the fleet has been outfitted with the HAAS equipment.

ITEM # 18 MANAGER COMMENT

Manager Takita said on Saturday, April 30th, Falls Township Police Department will have the Great Shredder event being held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. or until the truck is full. This event is for Falls Township residents only (no businesses) and the limit is two boxes. Also being held the same day is the National Prescription Drug Take Back event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The 2022 Spring Yard Waste Clean Up will be held on Saturday, April 30th. All yard waste must be placed in either 30-gallon trash cans (no lid) or the yard waste biodegradable bags and placed outside by 6 a.m. for pick up.

ITEM # 19 BOARD COMMENT

Member Palmer – No comment.

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Member Mullen said tonight we approved the AFSCME agreement. A lot of people work to make things happen and it is a good night to thank them for their efforts especially over these past couple of years. We are glad to have the staff we have.

Member Boraski – No comment.

Member Palmer moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Mullen seconded the motion all board members were in favor. (3-0) The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.



Brian Galloway, Secretary